

charitable giving in the United States. Those of us who believe in and support the work of charitable organizations located in my home State of Texas and throughout our country have an obligation to do what we can to help—not hinder—their efforts.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT ARISTIDE

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 1995

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate President Aristide and the people of Haiti on the first anniversary of the restoration of democracy to Haiti. I believe that the role of the United States in the restoration of democracy to Haiti represents a high point in the United States foreign policy with respect to the Caribbean and Africa.

Further, I wish to commend President Aristide on his promise to adhere strictly to the Haitian Constitution by leaving office in 1996. He has put himself above politics by not supporting efforts to ignore or amend the Constitution to enable himself to run again for the Presidency. Rather, he has put in the apparatus, so that his successor can continue the democratic process he has begun.

During the last year, President Aristide has worked relentlessly to move his country forward by reviving organizations destroyed during the years of corrupt military rule—organizations which are essential to the survival of democracy. In addition, President Aristide has made marked improvements in human rights.

As an enthusiastic supporter of democracy in Haiti, I wish the Haitian people continued success in their struggle to create a democracy that will withstand any efforts of individuals with aspirations to return Haiti to a totalitarian government. My Haitian friends, do not let anyone turn you around. Best wishes to you for a long, democratic life.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 1995

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, often in the course of our hectic, day-to-day lives we fail to remember the significance and importance of the activities and institutions that mean the most to us and our communities. One way in which we make up for this is in our celebration of anniversaries—the anniversary of our Nation's independence, the anniversary of important personal events, or the anniversary of the things that bind a community together. One important community institution in the Johnstown, PA area is Our Mothers of Sorrows Parish, which will be celebrating its 75th anniversary with a special Mass and dinner on October 29, 1995.

The community will be celebrating the founding of the Parish on November 3, 1920, by the Most Reverend John J. McCort. In its 75-year history of serving the people of Johnstown the parish has had only three Pastors—Rev. Msgr. Stephen A. Ward, Rev. Msgr.

Linford F. Greinader, and the current Pastor, Rev. Msgr. Thomas K. Mabon, who is a native of Johnstown and was assigned to Our Mother of Sorrows Parish in 1993.

I'd like to join all the people of Johnstown in extending congratulations and best wishes to all the parishioners of Our Mother of Sorrows Parish as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. We've certainly experienced many ups and downs in the past 75 years in Johnstown, but it has been our faith and the guidance offered us by the stabilizing influences in our community that enable us to continue to look forward. I'm certain that Our Mother of Sorrows Parish will continue to be an important part of the lives of many of the people of Johnstown, and I wish you another wonderful 75 years and more as a Johnstown institution.

HONORING THE FLORIN JAPANESE-AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 1995

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to bring to my colleagues' attention the work of a distinguished public service organization, the Florin Japanese-American Citizens League [JACL]. On November 4, 1995, the Sacramento community will gather to honor this organization and celebrate its 60th anniversary.

The Florin JACL was formally organized in 1935 as one of the original 115 chapters nationwide. A volunteer nonprofit and educational organization, the Florin JACL has dedicated the past six decades to upholding the human and civil rights of Japanese-Americans and all Americans.

In their early years, the Florin JACL operated with dignity under the cloud of World War II. Though parents and relatives were confined in isolated relocation centers, 45 young Nikkei Florin soldiers fought a 2-front war: 1 against the enemy and 1 against national prejudice. After the war, the Florin JACL played an instrumental role in the resettlement of internees after the camps closed.

During the post-war era, after the passage of the landmark 1952 Walter-McCarran Act, the Florin JACL mounted a successful campaign which promoted and assisted Issei to become naturalized citizens, a privilege heretofore denied to them and others of Asian ancestry.

In more recent times, the Florin JACL has directed its efforts to social and educational service. In 1962, the Florin JACL Scholarships were initiated and for the past 23 years have provided students with the financial and moral support needed to pursue higher education. Always evolving to meet the needs of today's society, the Florin JACL now boasts such successful programs as an Annual Women's Day Forum and the Healthy Family Traditions project.

In addition to these interests, the Florin JACL has worked tirelessly to preserve the rich history of Japanese-Americans. For the past 12 years, the organization has sponsored Time of Remembrance programs featuring significant speakers, teachers, workshops, children's sessions, and Nikkei VFW participation

via lectures, exhibits, video, dissemination of informational materials, and question-and-answer sessions relating to the Japanese-Americans and World War II.

One of the most ambitious and exciting new projects in Sacramento is the establishment of the Japanese-American Archival Collection. Started by the Florin JACL's donation of the Mary Tsukamoto collection, the project has grown dramatically and serves as assurance that Japanese-American history will be preserved with tangible proof for future generations.

The Florin JACL is most deserving of our thanks and praise for their efforts and compassion for all people in the Sacramento region. I know my colleagues will join me in wishing the Florin chapter of the Japanese-American Citizens League many years of continued success.

REMEMBERING AMERICA'S VETERANS

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to honor the sacrifices of America's veterans on November 11, I want to draw the attention of my colleagues to the words of a poem sent me by one of my constituents, Peter Whitney of Walnut Creek, CA.

John DiRusso served with Peter in the Second World War. They were among the tens of thousands of young Americans who, in the words of the late journalist Theodore H. White, "saved the world." The words of this poem remind us of the heroism that was so common it came to be taken for granted. Yet we should never take for granted what so many brave men and women did to preserve our liberty.

It is a pleasure for me to include John DiRusso's poem, "Please Remember Me," in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. We do remember America's veterans. To forget them would be to ignore our very freedom, something we must never do as long as our Republic lasts.

PLEASE REMEMBER ME

(By John DiRusso)

Remember me, America, for I was once your son

I fought and died at Valley Forge with General Washington.

I was there at Gettysburg on that tragic, tragic day

When brother fought against brother—the blue against the gray.

I rode with Teddy Roosevelt on the charge up San Juan Hill

Some came back to fight again—but I just lie there still.

I went to France with A.E.F. to bring the peace to you

I was twenty-one and full of fun—I never saw twenty-two.

I'm still here at Pearl Harbor since that December seventh day of infamy

Lying silently with my shipmates on the U.S.S. Arizona at the bottom of the sea.

D-Day June 6TH 1994, we hit the beaches of Normandy

And we fought uphill every inch of the way
We routed the Germans and hurled them back but what a terrible price we had to pay.